

SHIPS TO ESCORT U. S. FLEET.

ARGENTINA AND CHILE WILL SEND OUT SQUADRONS.

Admiral Evans, better known as the President of the Argentine Republic, will send out a fleet of 100 ships to escort the U. S. fleet.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

RIO DE JANEIRO, Jan. 14.—Admiral Evans has been informed that the naval authorities of the Argentine Republic have given instructions that certain of the Argentine warships shall greet the American fleet when it arrives off the coast of Patagonia.

The Chilean battleship Captain Prat will welcome the fleet at Punta Arenas, capital of the Chilean Territory of Magallanes, which will be the next stopping place of the fleet after it leaves here, and a Chilean squadron will meet it off Valparaiso.

The sending of squadrons to sea to simply greet a passing fleet, as will be done off Patagonia and Valparaiso, is quite an unusual honor for one nation to pay another, and the American officers are enthusiastic over it.

President Penna, in greeting Rear Admiral Thomas at the reception given by his Excellency at Petropolis yesterday, expressed great regret that Rear Admiral Evans was indisposed.

The condition of Admiral Evans, who as stated in those despatches yesterday was prevented from going ashore by an attack of rheumatism in the ankle, is greatly improved. As soon as he is able he will pay his respects to President Penna, who is very desirous of meeting him.

Rear Admiral Alexandrino de Alencar, Minister of Marine, entertained 100 officers of the fleet at luncheon to-day on Mount Corcovado, which overlooks the capital. A large number of Brazilian naval officers were also present, and they manifested great cordiality toward the Americans.

Vice-Admiral Maury proposed a toast to the American navy, "whose emblem, God grant," he said, "may ever be entwined with that of Brazil in maintaining universal peace and progress among mankind."

He added that the entire population of the capital had watched the entrance of the American fleet into the harbor and that this was proof of the interest and friendship of the Brazilians.

Rear Admiral Thomas responded to the toast, thanking Vice-Admiral Maury for the friendly sentiments he had expressed.

He said the visit to Brazil of Secretary of State Root, prepared the way for the coming of the American fleet.

The torpedo boat flotilla, consisting of the Whipple, Hull, Hopkins, Stewart, Lawrence and Trustum, sailed from Pernambuco yesterday for this port.

Paymaster William H. Doherty will be tried by court-martial to-morrow on the charge of overstaying his leave of absence.

Another officer, Surgeon Band Perry, of the Georgia, will also be court-martialed. He is charged with oversteering the authority of the Harbor Provost while the fleet was at the Port of Spain in ordering men out of a boat.

A row occurred last night between some of the sailors from the American fleet and a number of the city's rougher element, but it did not amount to much.

Some of the Americans were in a saloon, where two Brazilian negroes became involved in a quarrel. One of the negroes threw a bottle at the other, but missed him and the missile hit a sailor. The latter chased the negro from the place and thought the matter ended.

The negro, however, thought differently. He obtained a big knife and returned to the saloon seeking vengeance. He attacked the first sailor he saw, and it was right here that he made a mistake. The sailor, before the negro could deal an effective blow with his weapon, handed him a good right arm American jolt on the jaw and the colored gentleman withdrew from the game.

He had a number of friends in the place, however, and they jumped in to even up things with the American, whose countrymen at once rallied to his assistance. A general mixup ensued, in which three men were slightly injured.

As soon as information of the fracas reached Rear Admiral Evans he ordered that all the liberty men be recalled to their ships. The matter was investigated and it was decided that the Americans were in no wise to blame for the trouble. This decision was concurred in by the Brazilian authorities, and as a result double the usual number of men were allowed to go ashore to-day, their number reaching 4,000.

The Brazilian officials approved Admiral Evans's course in giving the greater number shore leave.

It is generally admitted that the local police are a little slow in preserving peace. The chief of police says that the whole affair was a deplorable blunder. It has not had the slightest effect upon the cordiality displayed toward the Americans by the Brazilians.

Admiral Evans has called a full account of the row to the Secretary of the Navy at Washington.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.—The Navy Department received word this morning from the torpedo boat flotilla at Pernambuco, Brazil, that Herbert E. Gray, a freeman on the destroyer Lawrence, had been drowned in the harbor there and that his body had been found and buried on shore.

Gray enlisted from Ogem Hill, Md., and was the son of John Gray, his father, who resides at Marshall Hall, Md.

Rear Admiral Robley D. Evans, commander in chief of the battleship fleet, now at Rio de Janeiro, reported to the Navy Department to-day that there had been a slight disturbance in the streets of Rio de Janeiro involving a number of liberty men. The trouble was soon quelled by a party of petty officers and the police. Four petty officers were injured and the liberty party was instructed to return immediately to the ships. Shore privileges were temporarily suspended, but after an investigation the granting of shore leave was resumed, and as many as 4,000 men went on shore at one time. Admiral Evans reported that the men have been received with great cordiality.

KIDNAPPERS IN AUTOMOBILE.

Attempted to Get Miss McClenahan, Awaiting Commitment to Asylum.

STAMFORD, Conn., Jan. 14.—An attempt was made here to-night to kidnap Miss Gilles McClenahan, the wealthy woman who was adjudged insane on December 30 last and was put in custody of Dr. C. C. Devol of this city, pending commitment. Miss McClenahan has been living at her home here since she was found insane.

An automobile carrying five men went up to the McClenahan place at 9:30 o'clock. John Stephens, the caretaker, who was the only man about the place, was aroused by the ringing of the doorbell. One of the party asked him the way to a nearby settlement, and when Stephens stepped down to point it out others of the party jumped toward the open door. Stephens then ran back.

"We want Miss McClenahan, and we're going to take her back to New York with us no matter how many guns or how much help you've got," one of them said.

Stephens stepped toward the telephone, but one of the men jerked it off the wall. Stephens's wife ran out the back door and around the neighborhood. When the men saw help coming they jumped into their car and fled.

Miss McClenahan heard all the talk, but didn't realize the meaning of it. She could have been carried off easily if assistance had not been promptly. The police of all the nearby towns are watching for the automobile.

FIREMEN RESCUE BABIES.

And Struggle With Mother Who Couldn't Believe Her Were Saved.

Five babies between the ages of six months and a year old and as many mothers were rescued by way of a fire escape during the progress of a blaze in the five-story eleven-family tenement at 439 Columbus avenue last night.

The fire started in a baby carriage under the street floor stairs and spread so fast that everybody had to use the front fire escape. Firemen Strubel, Florence, Miller and Connors of Truck 22 made their way up the escape and handed down baby after baby. The mothers followed and the firemen were nearly smothered with baby clothes and lingerie.

Mrs. Max Steiner, who was not at home when the fire started, found her children in the burning house, got out safely, but fell over the street and dislocated her shoulder. A temporary nursery for the rescued babies, presided over by the police of the West Sixty-eighth street station, was rigged up in a drug store.

The fire was confined to the hallway. The damage is estimated at \$2,500.

More babies were carried to safety at a brick fire that started in the basement of a five-story tenement house at 259 Henry street at about the same time. Mrs. Moore, who lives on the top floor, emerged with three of her own and two of Mrs. Mitchell's. He and Mrs. Mitchell were both slightly injured.

N. Y. STATE CAMBERT.

Imported Boxes for Domestic Cheese Come in Already Labeled.

Two thousand imported empty Camber cheese boxes and boxes bearing the names of other French cheeses are on their way to join their destined cheese in this country. The titled boxes arrived day before yesterday, and the authorities out of respect to their aristocracy allowed them to be landed without delay or extra formality.

The boxes passed expeditiously through the custom house, after paying duty on printed matter, and 2,000 paper labels and another duty on imported cheese, covering the rest of them. Then they hastened by freight train to join their appointed mates up-State—domestic cheeses, rich enough, it is said, to be anxious to acquire a foreign title.

Cheese experts say that the marriage of high sounding foreign boxes and plain cheese of American make has been going on for years. The importation of empty boxes and labels is a thriving industry. It has grown up so little disturbed, the cheese dealers say, that now the importers do not bother to bring in the boxes and the labels in separate parcels, but send them through all pasted together and ready to use, which saves the inland makers of "imported" cheese a lot of trouble.

The use of labels made in France and boxes as well seems to lie in the fact that the domestic box makers are not up to imitating the peculiar type and finish of the foreign boxes. Many dealers say that their domestic cheeses when put up in the imported boxes absolutely cannot be told from those imported, at least not by anybody but the makers. He, however, the government knows who fills the boxes, and doubtless will see to the Americanization of the labels.

BECKHAM FAILS OF ELECTION.

Kentucky's Democratic Senate Nominee Lacks Four Votes in Legislature.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Jan. 14.—Gov. J. C. W. Beckham, who has the Democratic nomination for United States Senator, lacks four votes of election. The first vote was taken in the separate boards of the Legislature to-day.

W. D. Bradley, the Republican nominee, got sixty-four votes to Gov. Beckham's sixty-six. It takes seventy votes to elect. Beckham will be conceded to lose.

The Democrats who voted against Beckham were Senators Charlton, McNutt, Tabb and Campbell and Representatives McGinnis, McKnight and Dillard.

The Republicans and the Democrats who voted against Beckham to-day say that Beckham will be unbroken to-morrow and that Beckham can never be elected to the Senate.

HAS BATONYI BOUGHT A FARM?

Said to Have Acquired Land Adjoining That Owned by His Wife.

NEWPORT, Jan. 14.—It was reported here to-night that James F. Quinn of New York had purchased the Fayles farm, in New York, from Mrs. F. H. Wierwille of Newport, and that the purchase was for Aurel Batonyi, husband of Mrs. Burke-Roche.

If the report is true Mr. Batonyi becomes the owner of a farm near Elm Court, owned by Mrs. Batonyi, and bordering on Faxon farm, owned by Frank K. Sturgis of New York, a personal friend of Frank Wierwille. Nothing definite was given out to-night in regard to the price, though it was said that the transfer had been made for cash.

FORAKER SPOILS OHIO DEALS.

HAS SENATE REJECT NOMINATIONS IN TAFT'S INTEREST.

Four Postmasters Named, He Charges, on Their Promise to Help Taft—No Admiration for Senator Foraker Says a Word in Protest—23 Other Nominations Held Up.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.—Senator Foraker struck back to-day at the efforts of the Roosevelt Administration to eliminate him from politics. It was a very decisive and significant return blow. On Mr. Foraker's motion the Senate rejected the nominations of four Ohio postmasters whose selection has been due, according to Mr. Foraker, to their promise to support Secretary Taft's candidacy for the Presidential nomination.

"There will be no more prostitution of patronage to carry out political bargains without its being resented," declared Mr. Foraker after his victory. Not a vote was recorded against Mr. Foraker's motion to reject the four nominations. No friend of President Roosevelt or Secretary Taft among the Republican Senators raised his voice in explanation or protest.

"I move that the President be notified immediately," said Mr. Foraker grimly, when Vice-President Fairbanks had recorded the adverse vote.

For several months it has been charged openly that Federal patronage was being used in Ohio and elsewhere to aid the candidacy of Mr. Taft. Few specifications were cited, but Mr. Foraker and his colleagues, Senator Dick, had the specifications in the Ohio cases up their sleeves, waiting for a favorable opportunity to bring them forth. Mr. Dick is a member of the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads, and on his statement the committee authorized him to make an adverse report on the nominations of the four postmasters.

It is declared by friends of the Administration that this was a case merely of Senatorial courtesy. The two Ohio Senators gave notice that the nominations were not satisfactory to them, and according to the anti-Foraker explanation Senatorial courtesy decreed that the Senate should stand by Mr. Foraker and Mr. Dick. But why no Senator friendly to the President and Mr. Taft asked for the reasons that made the four Ohio nominees unsatisfactory to the Ohio Senators is a mystery. One suggested explanation is that some Republican Senators were anxious that the story should not be told.

The four Ohio men whose nominations were rejected are Emil H. Moser of Wapakoneta, Auglaize county; C. B. Mahon of Dennison, Tuscarawas county; George W. White of Uhrichsville, Tuscarawas county, and John F. Wetherell of Spencerville, Allen county. In each case it was charged by Senators Foraker and Dick that the appointments had been made as a result of promises to desert Senator Foraker and support Secretary Taft.

The rule in making appointments of postmasters is that where the post offices are in Congress districts represented by Republicans, the recommendations of the Representatives shall be followed, but in districts represented by Democrats, the Senators from the State, if they are Republicans, shall have the right of selection.

All four post offices whose nominees were rejected to-day are in districts represented by Democratic Congressmen.

Moser was chairman of the Auglaize county Republican legislative committee. Last year he was recommended by Senators Foraker and Dick for appointment to the Wapakoneta post office. The Post Office Department objected to a change, however, on the ground that Moser was a Democrat. The incumbent whose term had expired, had given a satisfactory administration and should not be disturbed.

Moser's county committee was for Foraker, but it suddenly shifted to Taft. It was declared that the shift was due to a promise to Moser that he would get Davis's place if the committee changed its allegiance to a greenback. Taft's candidacy was endorsed by the county committee and Moser was nominated to succeed Davis after the Post Office Department had refused to disturb him because of his efficiency.

According to the Ohio Senators, the Tuscarawas county Republican committee endorsed Taft's candidacy in consideration of an agreement that Mahon and White would be appointed postmasters at Dennison and Uhrichsville respectively.

William A. Pittenger, the postmaster at Dennison, had been recommended for reappointment by Senator Foraker in March, 1907, and Mr. Foraker had asked that if any change in the office was contemplated a hearing be given him. He alleged that no notice was served on Mr. Foraker, as he had requested, that Pittenger would not be reappointed.

Wetherell has been a Foraker adherent and had been endorsed by Senator Foraker for appointment to the Spencerville post office. The Post Office Department refused to sanction any change on the ground that Harry M. Ashton, the Spencerville postmaster, whose term has expired, was retained by his efficiency. Then Wetherell endorsed Taft's candidacy, and shortly thereafter, it is asserted, Wetherell was nominated for the office in place of Ashton.

The Ohio Senators intend to keep up the fight against the confirmation of postmasters whose selection is believed to be due to an agreement on their part to work for Taft's candidacy. It was said to-day in behalf of the Ohio Senators that in every case discovered of a political deal they will fight to reject nomination of persons chosen as a result of such deal. The nominations of eighteen postmasters, three Congressmen and one Judge, all in or from Ohio, have been held up in the Senate by Mr. Foraker.

Senator Foraker did not go to Ohio to-day. He will be here to-morrow for a meeting of the Committee on Military Affairs, which is considering the Brownsville case, but expects to leave Washington before the end of the week. He expects to remain in Ohio until after the Republican primaries.

Smallpost Closes Washington Public Library.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.—The public library of this city was closed to-day by the health office owing to an outbreak of smallpox in the library's office. Assistant Librarian Vitz was found to be suffering from a mild attack of the disease and the building has been quarantined. After a thorough fumigation it will be opened in a few days and the library's employees will be vaccinated.

RAILROAD MEN AT WHITE HOUSE.

Conference With Roosevelt Planned—Legislative Pooling to Be Discussed.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.—There will be a gathering of vice-presidents of American railroads at the White House on January 27. Those who will confer with the President are the officers in charge of traffic operations on their respective lines. Most of the larger railroad systems of the country will be represented.

The meeting is held at the instance of the railroad men, who will present a petition for relief from some of the burdens of overrestrictive legislation. Arrangements for the conference were made to-day by Senator Warner of Missouri.

Among the railroads which will be represented are the New York Central, Pennsylvania, Southern, Burlington, Chicago and Northwestern, Illinois Central and the Frisco system.

Although no details of the conference are given it is planned that the principal topics to be discussed will be the legislative pooling arrangements. The prohibition embodied both in the Sherman act and the Hepburn rate law against traffic arrangements, between roads has always been burdensome, but the pinch is felt particularly at this time on account of the recent financial disturbance. Legitimate traffic arrangements would save the railroads of the country hundreds of thousands of dollars. President Roosevelt has expressed himself several times as favorable to the legalization of tariff arrangements between interstate roads.

Robbers Kill a Baker.

Ardsley Man Stabbed to Death After a Fight on a Lonely Road.

TARRYTOWN, N. Y., Jan. 14.—Frank Nunno, a young baker of Ardsley, Westchester county, was found murdered this afternoon beside his delivery wagon in a lonely section on the Sawmill River road, between Hastings and Ardsley. It is believed by the county authorities that the gang of bandits that shot and robbed an insurance agent at Elmsford about two weeks ago and looted several post offices in the county were responsible for this latest crime.

Nunno had been stabbed in the jugular vein after he had fought with the robbers. It is known that he had a large sum of money when he left his shop this morning and this is missing. When found his pockets were inside out and his watch had also been stolen.

Nunno had been married about six months. His friends say that he had received several threatening letters demanding money and they believe the writers or their associates trailed him to the spot where he met his death.

EX-ACTRESS POISONED BY GAS.

Bishop Peterkin Calls to See His Relative in Hospital.

Miss Elinore Maria, who is related to Bishop George W. Peterkin of West Virginia, was found unconscious in her room at 235 West Forty-fifth street yesterday. Gas which was escaping from a stove connected with an open fire filled the room. At Bellevue it was said that in addition to illuminating gas poisoning she was suffering from the effects of bromides and chloral.

Miss Maria, who is 45 years old, was on the stage at one time and for several years had been in the Broadway shows. Of late she had been doing missionary work and was interested in the Florence Crittenton Mission in Bleeker street.

Several days ago she was taken ill and was unable to leave her room. Bishop Peterkin, who is here on a visit, had called on her several times within the last week. He went to see her in the hospital.

MORE OIL TRUST PROSECUTIONS.

Rebate Cases Involving Burlington and Eastern Illinois to Come Up Before May.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.—It was announced to-day that the cases involving rebates alleged to have been granted to the Standard Oil Company by the Burlington road and the Eastern Illinois road would be prosecuted between now and next May. These cases are in the Chicago jurisdiction, and may afford Judge Landis another opportunity to impose fines of sensational magnitude. It is said that these cases involve more than four thousand counts.

District Attorney Sims and Assistant District Attorney Wilkerson of the Chicago district are in Washington to-day in connection with a new move made by the Standard Oil Company's lawyers in the case pending in the Circuit Court of Appeals involving the \$29,000,000 fine. They talked this morning with the President.

Counsel for the Standard Oil Company have proposed several hypothetical questions involving questions of law. One of these is as to whether the railway rate law affects cases which were instituted prior to the enactment of that statute under the Elkins anti-rebate law. It was said that the Government had decided to make no answer to the points raised.

MORE BRIGHTON BEACH CARS.

Public Service Board Issues an Order to the B. R. T.

The Public Service Commission issued an order yesterday directing the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company to add at least twenty-five cars to its service on the Brighton Beach line. Complaint has been made to the commission on this line the company has been operating trains of only two and three cars. The order issued by the commission is that the trains shall have more cars and that in the rush hours more trains should be operated.

Commissioner Bassett, who moved the adoption of the resolution at yesterday's meeting of the commission, said that the increased service called for would tend greatly to diminish the overcrowding of the short trains of the Brighton Beach line.

DRUNKEN POLICEMAN FINED.

Mangan, Who Assaulted Man and Insulted Woman, Laid Thirty Days Pay.

Patrolman Patrick Mangan of the Old Slip station was found guilty of insubordination and assault and fined fifteen days pay by Deputy Police Commissioner Hanson yesterday. Mangan is the policeman who on December 28 insulted a woman at the Brooklyn Bridge and struck a man who went to her defense.

When arrested and arraigned in the Tombs court Mangan said that he could not remember anything about the occurrence. Inspector Burfield suspended him at once, and last Thursday he pleaded guilty before Commissioner Hanson. The punishment of fifteen days pay is in addition to Mangan's fifteen days of suspension, thus setting him back thirty days pay in all. He is now ordered to return to duty.

WON'T FREE STOKES FROM WIFE.

COURT SAYS COLONEL ISN'T ENTITLED TO ANNULMENT.

Because He Continued to Live With Mrs. Hitchens-Stokes After He Learned That Hitchens Was Alive—Wife Heirs Head of the 23d Regiment Testify.

Justice Marcan in the Supreme Court, Brooklyn, yesterday refused to annul the marriage of Col. W. A. Stokes, commanding the Twenty-third Regiment. The Court based this decision on the fact that the petitioner had continued to live with his wife, Elizabeth W. Hitchens-Stokes, for two years after being apprised that the woman's first husband was alive.

Major H. D. Hamilton, counsel for Col. Stokes, in opening the case said that Mrs. Stokes had married John Hitchens in Philadelphia on March 24, 1875, when she was 21 years old, and that they had lived together until 1898. Papers were produced as evidence of the marriage, and Thomas K. Parkes of Lynbrook, L. I., testified to the recent good health of the absent husband. He said that he had known the principals in the suit for about fifteen years and had recently gone to Seattle, Wash., where he identified the missing man. Major Hamilton intimated that the defendant could have learned whether her husband was alive had she desired to do so before contracting a second marriage.

This was refuted by James P. Nieman, counsel for Mrs. Stokes. The lawyer said that his client had married in good faith and under the impression that her first husband was dead, that Col. Stokes had sought the defendant to marry him, asserting that he had obtained legal advice that the marriage would be all right as the husband was legally dead, having been away five years. Lawyer Nieman said that the suit was unjust and should not have been brought, as it was something of an aspersion on the defendant and her grown children.

Justice Marcan took up the matter at that point, saying that the law might be cruel, but that the suit was no aspersion upon Mrs. Stokes or her children.

The proceedings grew interesting and very emphatic when Stokes took the stand. He recounted several personal questions regarding his relations with Mrs. Stokes and on one occasion appealed to Justice Marcan, but without the desired result. Col. Stokes said that he lived at 608 St. Mark's avenue and was a manufacturer of wooden ware. He said that he courted Mrs. Hitchens under the impression that she was a widow and that she allowed him to labor under that impression. He denied that he had advised her about the legality of their marriage, but acknowledged that the marriage came about as a result of his solicitation.

On one point Col. Stokes was very decided. He was sure that in the course of their confidential chats he had told her that he could never bring himself to marry a divorcee. Mrs. Stokes evidently remembered this, for the witness said that his wife had come to him, after a little difficulty following the introduction of Hitchens into their home, and had told him that she could get a divorce for from \$3,000 to \$5,000. He told her that he would never get one and apparently made no effort to assist her.

When Lawyer Nieman wanted to know why Col. Stokes had brought the suit for annulment the Colonel replied that he had hoped to shield his wife by doing so. Nieman's expression of surprise seemed to settle the Colonel, who answered from then on in a loud voice and very curtly.

Col. Stokes said he had married the defendant under the impression that she was a widow, but later had told her not to mind, that he would take care of her when her husband came back and would try to adjust matters. He said that he lived with her until his life became unbearable. The suit for annulment was then brought. Counsel for the defense wanted to know if Mrs. Stokes had not nursed the plaintiff through a very sore illness and the plaintiff was explosively sure that she hadn't.

He was just as sure that he had been a model nurse and more than a mere husband when she was sick.

Then Col. Stokes proceeded to tell how, when he was ill, he had been compelled to crawl to the telephone and request some of his men to come and make a cup of coffee for him. He said that he had taken his own medicine without any aid from his wife, and added, "That is returning good for evil."

It seems that the plaintiff was first apprised of Hitchens's existence by a mutual friend who called at the request of Mrs. Stokes's son. Stokes said that this was about three months after the marriage and that he supposed the mutual friend had called because the son was afraid to do the errand himself.

Col. Stokes said that Hitchens's son had started the investigation which unearthed the father in order to bring about an annulment of the marriage of his mother and Col. Stokes. The latter says that when he taxed his bride with the information which had been given to him she finally grew angry and retorted, "Well, I have you by the neck, anyhow." It was then that Stokes promised to see that she was treated well if she was good.

Mrs. Hitchens-Stokes was an interested listener to the testimony. Her interest was indicated by varied expressions and numerous shrugs. The action which she is bringing to determine the ownership of the house at 608 St. Mark's avenue, which at present is occupied jointly by the parties to the suit, probably will be tried to-morrow.

TRAFFIC ITSELF AGAIN.

Subway and Surface Lines Resume Operations Near the Parker Building.

Building Superintendent Murphy notified General Manager Hedley of the Interborough yesterday afternoon that the Eighteenth street station of the subway could be opened. The Eighteenth street station was opened at 4:45 o'clock and at the same time workmen began taking up the cribbing in front of the Parker Building so that the Fourth avenue surface line might resume. The Eighteenth street station was opened at 4:45 o'clock and at the same time workmen began taking up the cribbing in front of the Parker Building so that the Fourth avenue surface line might resume. The Eighteenth street station was opened at 4:45 o'clock and at the same time workmen began taking up the cribbing in front of the Parker Building so that the Fourth avenue surface line might resume.

A squad of men are working away in the debris in the Parker Building, but the bodies of the two firemen who lost their lives have not been recovered.

GENIUS NOT SWINDLER.

Lord Armstrong Says Lemoine Really Can Make Fine Diamonds.

SPECIAL CABLE DESPATCH TO THE SUN.

LONDON, Jan. 13.—The Monte Carlo correspondent of the Chronicle has interviewed Lord Armstrong, who is visiting there. Lord Armstrong said he was absolutely convinced that Lemoine, the man who was arrested recently in Paris charged with swindling Sir Julius Charles Werber of the De Beers Company out of \$320,000, which was advanced to carry on experiments in the manufacture of diamonds, is a genius; that he has really discovered the secret of making diamonds, and that he is now the victim of unjust calumnies.

Lord Armstrong described a visit he made to Lemoine's laboratory in Paris. He said he put some of Lemoine's powder into an empty crucible, which was then placed in a furnace. Lemoine did not interfere with the experiment. When the crucible was removed it contained an agglomerated mass of carbonized matter. Lord Armstrong broke it open and found that it contained numerous small diamonds.

He had an expert examine them. Some of them were found to be of the purest water and were worth \$5 a carat. Others were less perfect. Lord Armstrong showed the diamonds thus manufactured to his interviewer.

SUES TO ANNUL MARRIAGE.

Walter Gibbs Sues His Wife Who Was Never Divorced From Husband.

Walter W. Gibbs, connected with an advertising firm, has begun an action in the Supreme Court for the annulment of his marriage to Minnie T. Gibbs, which occurred fifteen years ago. Gibbs says that his wife never got a divorce from her first husband, John F. Huffcutt, brother of the late Dean Huffcutt, Gov. Hughes's first legal adviser, who committed suicide last summer.

Mrs. Gibbs says that she did get a divorce, but lost the papers.

SUBWAY TABLETS TURNED DOWN.

Not Artistic Enough for the Walls of the Borough Hall Station.

The Municipal Art Commission at its annual meeting yesterday rejected Robert W. De Forest president for the fourth year; Frank D. Millet was elected vice-president, and Howard Mansfield was re-elected secretary.

The commission rejected the four tablets which have been designed under the supervision of the old Rapid Transit Commission and the Public Service Commission to be put on the walls of the Borough Hall station in Brooklyn, to commemorate the building of the subway extension to Brooklyn. The tablets as designed contain the names of the members and engineers of the two commissions and illustrate by means of dates the progress of the work of connecting Manhattan and Brooklyn by means of the tunnel. The commission rejected the designs for the reason that the ornamental border around the inscriptions on the tablets were not artistic.

COUPLE EATEN BY ALLIGATORS.

Young American Man and Woman Thrown From Boat in Balsas River, Mexico.

MEXICO CITY, Mexico, Jan. 14.—Dr. Will B. Davis, American consular agent at Guadalajara, has been advised that two unknown Americans, a man about 28 years old and a young woman about 19, were thrown out of a boat while travelling down the Balsas River and both were eaten by alligators before they could be rescued.

Their trunk sank in the river and has not been recovered. Nothing is known as to the identity of the couple.

DYING MAN ON A HOUSE TOP.

Apparently a Rope Ladder Burglar Who Fell While Descending.

Persons living in the apartment house at 2730 Second avenue heard sounds of groaning coming from the roof of a two-story extension in the rear of the house last night. They found a man lying on the roof. The man was taken to the Harlem Hospital. He has a fractured skull, and will die.

Investigation showed a rope swinging from the roof of the apartment house, fastened to a standpipe. The rope came down to about the fourth story. It is supposed that the man was a burglar who purposed getting in at a window after scaling from the roof but fell instead.

He was able to say that he was James Quinn, a plumber, of East 118th street, but refused the house number. No one in the Second avenue place knew him.

THIRD RECEIVER FOR AIR LINE.

Judge Pritchard Names E. C. Duncan, Said to Be Friendly to Williams Interests.

RICHMOND, Va., Jan. 14.—Edward Carlton Duncan of Raleigh, N. C., was this afternoon named by Judge Jeter C. Pritchard of the United States Circuit Court as third receiver, to be associated with R. Lancaster Williams and St. Davies Warfield, in the conduct of the Seaboard Air Line Railway. Duncan is a director and stockholder in the Atlantic and North Carolina Railway, recently merged with the Norfolk and Southern.